



September 29, 2014

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TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Mitchell H. Katz, M.D. 
Director

SUBJECT: **RANCHO LOS AMIGOS NATIONAL REHABILITATION
CENTER TO RECEIVE THE COLLABORATIVE
ALLIANCE FOR NURSING OUTCOMES
PERFORMANCE EXCELLENCE AWARD**

Mitchell H. Katz, M.D.
Director

Hal F. Yee, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.
Chief Medical Officer

Christina R. Ghaly, M.D.
Deputy Director, Strategic Planning

I am pleased to inform you that on October 28, 2014, the Collaborative Alliance for Nursing Outcomes (CALNOC) will be recognizing Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center (Rancho) for Performance Excellence in the Prevention of Hospital Acquired Pressure Ulcers (HAPU) II+.

CALNOC is the nation's first registry dedicated to nursing sensitive measures at the unit level. CALNOC is the measure developer for the National Quality Forum Pressure Ulcer and Restraint Use prevalence measure for acute care. During the 2014 Annual Conference, CALNOC will offer awards that recognize hospitals for their exemplary work in reducing hospital acquired conditions in 2013. There are 3 major awards that are presented under the performance excellence category: prevention of injury falls, prevention of hospital acquired pressure ulcers (HAPU) II+, and prevention of hospital acquired infection prevention. Rancho is being awarded the performance excellence award in the prevention of hospital acquired pressure ulcers (HAPU) II+.

CALNOC membership is comprised of hundreds of hospitals across the United States. Rancho joined CALNOC and began submitting data in July 2013. We are very proud of Rancho for being honored with this prestigious award after being a part of the organization for approximately one year. Rancho's CEO, Jorge Orozco, continues to emphasize that a major goal at Rancho is to have zero hospital acquired ulcers. Receiving this award is confirmation of the hard work by the Rancho staff to achieve that very goal. To be successful in this area, Rancho implemented many changes including the focusing of staff on intervention, training, and changes in service. Staff

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implemented a requirement that all newly admitted patients' skin assessments are completed by 2 nurses to guarantee accuracy in reporting. To test the effectiveness of this new requirement, the staff conducted quarterly pressure ulcer prevalence studies where 25 nurses visited various units and collected information to ensure the accuracy of skin assessments. Rancho plans to focus on measuring its future performance against the high bar that it has now set and to continue providing quality care to patients.

If you would like more information about the 2014 CALNOC Annual Conference or if you have any questions, please let me know.

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c: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Health Deputies
DHS Executive Staff